than once it has been announced by the hon Finance Minister and myself also that there is no question of any further devaluation of the rupee in India There is no such question

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D CHAVAN In view of the fact that most of the flights from abroad come late in the night and the people bringing in gold have to go to the villages, there is a security problem involved In view of this, I would like to know from the hon Minister whether the Government will consider a scheme of physical delivery of the gold by the Reserve bank of India After the passenger comes in within 24 hours or within a week he can take physically the delivery of the gold from the Reserve Bank after payment in the foreign exchange

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR I think this is a good suggestion, well taken

MR SPEAKER This is a sort of an assurance

[*Translation*]

Export of Stone

*437 SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a great potential for export of garnet, marble and other stones from Rajasthan,

(b) if so, whether there is any scheme to give impetus and to regulate export of stones from Rajasthan, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) A Statement is attached

STATEMENT

(b) and (c) Exports of processed stones are eligible for benefits under Section 80 HHC of the Income Tax Act Exports including exports of stones are eligible for benefits under the Liberalised Exchange Rate Management Scheme of the Reserve Bank of India The State Government of Rajasthan has declared marble and granite resource based industry under the State Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for New Industries, 1990 to promote export of these minerals Besides, 100% EOUs are being approved for export production of cut and polish granite etc

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA Mr Speaker, Sir, the Indian Export Credit Guarantee Corporation Ltd provides guarantee to the exporters for the risk involved in exports I would like to know from the hon Minister whether the Government is considering to provide that type of guarantee to these exporters also Part (b) machines like diamond cutter etc used in this work are imported from Italy, Japan and Germany As such I would like to know from the hon Minister weather the Government proposes to liberalise the foreign exchange rules for this purpose

[*English*]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED The question relates to export potential of mines and minerals from Rajasthan The question that has now been raised by the hon Member can be considered separately I will certainly have it looked into and inform the hon member of the Government's position

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA Mr Speaker, Sir, demand of marble is increasing in the country as well as abroad day by day Nagaur, Udaipur, Alwar, Bhilwara and Boondi districts are the marble centres in Rajasthan I would like to know from the hon Minister whether the Government propose to establish any organisation to provide security and do welfare activities for the marble labourers in the same line facilities are provide to coalmine labourers

[*English*]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED Once again, I am afraid that this is not within the purview of this question.

MR. SPEAKER: This does not come out of the question.

[*Translation*]

Widening of G. T. Road Between Veranasi and Dehri-on-sone

*438. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Grand Trunk road between Varanasi and Dehri-on-Sone is not traffic worthy,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to widen the aforesaid section of the road;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount spent on the development of this section during the last three years?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAG DISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). National Highway No. 2 (G.T. Road) between Varanasi and Dehri-on-Sone is generally being maintained in traffic worthy condition. There is no proposal at present for widening to 4 lanes this section except for a 4 km. length of Sasaam Bazar for which an estimate of Rs. 177. 48 lakhs has been recently sanctioned.

(d) An allotment of Rs. 230/.68 lakhs has been made for original works development in this section during the last three years (1988-89 to 1990-91).

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker Sir the condition of G.T. Road between Sasaram and Dehri-on-Sone is very bad. It is not trafficworthy. I have specifically asked the hon. Minister whether it is trafficworthy or not. He did not give a clear cut reply. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many accidents did take place and how many people died last year for want of trafficworthiness of this road. How long does the Government want to keep it an accident prone road.

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I had mentioned that we are maintaining it as a road worthy and the traffic can go. I cannot give you the number of accidents which had taken place. But I can assure the hon. Member that the money has been sanctioned for strengthening this part of the road. And rather I just mentioned that even the work of widening to four lanes on Sasaram for a four km. length is in progress. Also I would like to inform the hon. Member that a lot of money has been sanctioned to that particular State. But due to many reasons such as strikes; the contractors are being threatened. the people are not coming out to work there. I would request you to see that normal conditions prevail in that particular State. The contractors have been coming from other States and they have been bringing in lakhs of rupees worth of machinery there. The machineries are being stolen and the contractors are being threatened. But we have sanctioned money from the Centre and the work is in progress. But I am afraid to say that work is not according to my satisfaction because of the reasons which I have just mentioned.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister said that the work of widening the road to four lanes is in progress at Sasaram. At Varanasi also the G.T. Road covers about 7 kms. In view of this has the Government any scheme to start the work of widening the road to four lanes at Varanasi also If so, will it be done this year or next year keeping in view the density of traffic in the city?